



## U.S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation

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### THE FBI BIOMETRIC CENTER OF EXCELLENCE (BCOE) PUBLISHES THE STATE-OF-THE-ART BIOMETRICS EXCELLENCE ROADMAP (SABER) TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT

#### *The FBI-sponsored Study Provides New Look at the Future of Biometrics Technology*

Clarksburg, West Virginia – The FBI BCOE published an independent biometric technology assessment, developed by The MITRE Corporation, for the benefit of the biometric community. “When the BCOE funded the SABER Technology Assessment, we recognized its tremendous potential not only in helping to strategically prioritize the FBI’s biometric research and funding activities, but also to promote the use of biometric technology for the benefit of our government, academic, and industry partners through a comprehensive analysis of current biometric capabilities.” said Criminal Justice Information Services Division Assistant Director, Thomas E. Bush, III.

Available publicly today, the SABER Technology Assessment gauges the maturity of biometric modalities to develop a common baseline understanding for the biometric community and evaluates the potential for expanding the FBI’s Certified Products List as these modalities mature. This ten-month assessment involved an extensive survey of biometric technologies, current products, systems, independent performance evaluations, and an overview of select research activities. MITRE assessed the robustness of current applications and the market as a whole. This report investigates performance evaluations and standards, identifies promising research topics, and articulates potential challenges.

By publishing the SABER Technology Assessment, the BCOE hopes to provide law enforcement and government biometrics community with a thorough report on the current state of biometric modalities. As MITRE Vice President Gary J. Gagnon stated, “the SABER study provides an excellent baseline for the various biometric modalities that will stimulate integration activities as well as technology and data standards across the biometric community. The BCOE, working in conjunction with the private sector, academia and other biometric centers within the Government, can advance the use of biometric technology in support of our National Security Mission.”

The study benefited from the input of senior FBI officials and external consultants, as well as visits to representative federal, state, and local booking environments, a state detention facility, and additional locations where surveillance systems are used for security and gaming. These site visits provided valuable perspective on the constraints and challenges that must be considered for the advancement of biometrics to meet law enforcement and counter-terrorism missions.

| The SABER Technology Assessment is available online at [www.BiometricCoE.gov](http://www.BiometricCoE.gov), where the BCOE welcomes comments and questions regarding the report.

The FBI BCOE, headquartered in Clarksburg, West Virginia, is the FBI’s focal point to foster collaboration, improve information sharing, and advance the adoption of optimal biometric and identity management solutions across the law enforcement and national security communities. This program is strengthening criminal investigations and enhancing national security, while ensuring compliance with privacy laws, policies, and procedures. The BCOE’s approach is built upon the best practices of the FBI’s extensive experience leading biometric use. It ensures that the FBI remains at the forefront of biometrics technology and maintains its lead role in biometric identification.

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